



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/830,196  
Applicant : Hubert T. McGovern  
Filing Date : April 21, 2004  
Title : Deck Screws Suitable for Use with Composite Lumber  
TC/A.U. : 3677  
Examiner : William L. Miller  
Docket No. : OMG/130/US  
Customer No. : 002543

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and  
Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

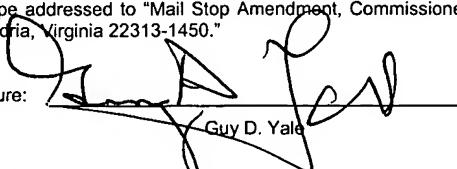
In response to the restriction requirement dated March 22, 2005, Applicant responds as follows:

Applicant provisionally elects to proceed with group I which is claims 1-11 and 14-17.

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Attorney's Ref: OMG/130/US

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450."

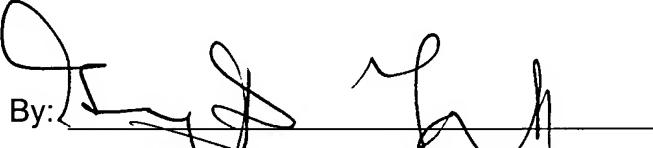
Signature:  Reg. No.: 29,125 Date: April 18, 2005  
Guy D. Yale

Application No. 10/830,196  
Amendment Dated: April 18, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of: March 22, 2005

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement. The screw and composite lumber assembly of claims 1-11 and 14-17 are very closely related to the method of securing composite lumber to the base support of claims 12-13. The Examiner has not made a showing that examining both classes would be an undue burden or that extensive additional searching would be required. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement and proceed to examine all of the pending claims of the application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hubert T. McGovern

By:   
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